

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) In a data communications system, a data link layer maintenance system that is operational in an ISDN Access Node and that executes the LAP-D protocol, for maintaining an existing data link layer communication session with a terminal equipment active while the terminal equipment executes a software reset operation, comprising:

data link layer state means, responsive to the initiation of a software reset operation in said terminal equipment and the presence of an active data link between said ISDN Access Node and said terminal equipment, for forcing said terminal equipment into a predetermined active data call connection state; and

state maintenance means for exchanging call connection signals with said terminal equipment to maintain said terminal equipment into a predetermined active data call connection state and to prevent interruption of said active data link between said ISDN Access Node and said terminal equipment.

2. (Previously presented) The data link layer maintenance system of claim 1 wherein said data link layer state means comprises:

link session transmission means for transmitting a DL-ESTABLISH indication primitive of said LAP-D protocol to a layer 3 of the LAP-D protocol to maintain a stable call connection.

3. (Previously presented) The data link layer maintenance system of claim 2 wherein said state maintenance means comprises:

RNR signal transmission means for transmitting a RNR (F=1) signal of said LAP-D protocol to said terminal equipment while the software reset operation is executing.

4. (Original) The data link layer maintenance system of claim 3 further comprising:
reset means, responsive to the completion of execution of said software reset operation, for disabling said RNR signal transmission means.